

Office of Congressman Charles W. Dent  
*Proudly Representing Pennsylvania's 15<sup>th</sup> District*



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Congressman Dent hails passage of Highway Bill  
SAFETEA-LU to bring more than \$56.1 million to the 15<sup>th</sup> District

Washington, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Charlie Dent (PA-15), a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, along with U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum, chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, and U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter, a member of the Senate Transportation Appropriations Committee, announced final passage of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which will bring more than \$56.1 million in needed infrastructure and transportation projects and create jobs in the 15<sup>th</sup> District.

“We finally have an excellent Highway Bill, which will build roads, create jobs and make driving safer in our district, across Pennsylvania and across the nation,” Congressman Dent said. “I thank our local officials in the district and PennDOT for helping me assemble the major priorities. I especially thank Sen. Santorum and Sen. Specter for seeing these projects through the Senate and in some cases significantly adding to the requests I made. They have been reliable partners throughout this process.”

“I was pleased to work together with Senator Specter and Congressman Dent to provide funding to expand and improve our roadways and mass transit infrastructure in the Lehigh Valley, Berks and Montgomery county communities,” Sen. Santorum said.

“It is important that Pennsylvania continuously maintain and modernize transportation throughout the Commonwealth in order to ensure

the safe travel of our citizens, create more efficient means of transportation, and sustain a robust economy,” Sen. Specter said.

Congressman Dent had secured about \$45 million in funding for 15<sup>th</sup> District projects in the original House bill, passed in March; with the Senators’ help, the final number has increased to more than \$56.1 million.

“The district projects the Senators and I have put into this bill will support the growing needs of the 15<sup>th</sup> District,” Congressman Dent said.

Projects in the 15<sup>th</sup> District that would be funded through TEA-LU:

**Berks/Montgomery:**

Construct the SR 1058 Connector between PA 309 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Northeast Extension in Montgomery County

Amount: \$1,280,000

Reconstruct highway and replace of bridge on US 422 between the Berks County Line and the Schuylkill River in Montgomery and Chester Counties

Amount: \$1,200,000

**Lehigh Valley:**

Widen the Route 412 corridor from 1-78 into the City of Bethlehem

Amount: \$15,000,000

Complete the connection of the American Parkway between the east and west sides of the Lehigh River with bridge and interchanges

Amount: \$10,000,000

Allentown: Design and construct Intermodal Transportation Center

Amount (spread over four years): \$3,672,000

Improve Freemansburg Avenue and its intersections at Route 33

Amount: \$3,600,000

Construct safety and capacity improvements to Route 309 and Old Packhouse Road

Amount: \$2,700,000

Widen SR 309 through the Borough of Coopersburg to create left-turn lanes and complete the Rt. 309 Corridor Improvement Project  
Amount: \$2,400,000

Reconstruct the SR 33/512 interchange in the Borough of Wind Gap  
Amount: \$2,000,000

Acquisition of adjacent property to planned Park-n-Ride at Kressler Road and Hamilton Boulevard in Wescosville  
Amount: \$2,000,000

Improve safety of Route 145 in Whitehall Township  
Amount: \$1,780,000

Easton: Design and Construct Intermodal Transportation Center  
Amount (spread over four years): \$1,672,000

Widen lanes, add left turn lanes and update and install traffic signals at SR 309, SR 4010 interchange in North Whitehall Township  
Amount: \$1,200,000

Extension of Second Street from Race to the intersection of Lehigh and Poplar streets in the Borough of Catasauqua  
Amount: \$880,000

Preconstruction studies for improvement to US 22 from Irving Street to Mickley Road  
Amount: \$800,000

Replace Messinger Street Bridge in the Borough of Bangor  
Amount: \$800,000

Construct highway safety and capacity improvements to improve the access to the KidsPeace Broadway Campus in Fountain Hill  
Amount: \$720,000

Upgrade circuit for gates and lights at Seventh Street in Emmaus, USDOT crossing number 592401H, to constant warning time devices.  
Amount: \$220,000

Upgrade circuit for gates and lights at 31st Street in Allentown, USDOT crossing number 592410G, to constant warning time devices  
Amount: \$220,000

Upgrade circuit for gates and lights at Sixth Street in Emmaus, USDOT crossing number 592402P, to constant warning time devices  
Amount: \$220,000

**Research and technology projects:**

**HYDROGEN FUEL CELL SHUTTLE DEPLOYMENT**

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT: To demonstrate the utility of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles in daily shuttle service, funds shall be provided in fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for hydrogen fuel cell employee shuttle vans, related equipment, operations, public education and outreach in the Lehigh Valley  
Amount: \$1,800,000

REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER: Funds shall be provided in fiscal years 2006 through 2009 for a regional public safety training center at Lehigh Carbon Community College  
Amount: \$2,000,000

Total = **\$56,164,000**

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